

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EB-08 AGRE-00 AID-05 EUR-12 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ISO-00 SP-02 L-03 /056 R

DRAFTED BY IO/AGR:JSWOLF:DKS  
APPROVED BY IO/AGR:PJBYRNES  
EB/OPF:JBOYLE  
USDA/OGSM:MCHAMBLISS  
AID/FFP:KBITTERMANN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, FAO, WFP

SUBJECT: FOOD AID

REF: ROME 4224

1. FODAG SHOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO CORRECT  
SEVERAL INACCURACIES AND MISIMPRESSIONS REPORTED REFTEL.

-- WE FEEL ABSOLUTELY NO EMBARRASSMENT NOR RELUCTANCE  
ABOUT OUR FOOD AID POLICIES AND QUANTITIES IN GENERAL  
NOR OUR WFP PLEDGE SPECIFICALLY.

-- IN THE LATTER CASE OUR \$220 MILLION PLEDGE WAS 28 PER-  
CENT HIGHER THAN THE NEXT HIGHEST PLEDGE, AND IT REPRESENTS  
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SENTS A VERY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OVER OUR PLEDGE FOR  
1977/1978. WHILE WE DID NOT OPPOSE THE \$950 MILLION  
TARGET WE MADE CLEAR WHAT LEVEL WE SUPPORTED AS REALISTIC  
AND ATTAINABLE. WE PLEDGED TO WFP AN AMOUNT COMMENSURATE  
WITH WHAT WE BELIEVED THE PROGRAM COULD HANDLE EFFICIENTLY  
AND RECIPIENT COUNTRIES COULD ABSORB EFFECTIVELY.

-- OUR EFFORTS TO HELP FEED THE WORLD'S HUNGRY MUST NOT BE MEASURED BY OUR WFP PLEDGE ALONE. THAT PLEDGE IS JUST A PORTION OF THE 1.6 MILLION TONS OF GRANT RPT GRANT FOOD

AID WE GIVE ANNUALLY, IN ADDITION TO THE APPROXIMATELY 5 MILLION TONS OF PL 480 TITLE I (AND III) COMMODITIES WHICH ARE SOLD CONCESSIONALLY. 75 PERCENT OF ALL TITLE I COMMODITIES GO TO IDA ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES. TITLE III PROVIDES US WITH A NEW DEVELOPMENT TOOL, AND WE ARE WORKING WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO IMPLEMENT TITLE III.

-- WHILE THE ADMINISTRATION HAS ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO CREATE AN EMERGENCY WHEAT RESERVE OF UP TO 6 MILLION TONS, NO PROPOSAL HAS YET GONE FORWARD TO CONGRESS. THE RESERVE ENVISIONED AS A GOVERNMENT HELD (CCC) RESERVE DESIGNED TO ENSURE THAT U.S. FOOD AID SHIPMENTS FOR HUMANITARIAN RELIEF CAN BE SUSTAINED DURING POOR CROP YEARS. ALREADY, AS AN INTERIM MEASURE, PL 480 HAS BEEN AMENDED TO PERMIT THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO ALLOCATE FROM AVAILABLE FOOD SUPPLIES TO MEET URGENT HUMANITARIAN NEEDS EVEN DURING TIMES OF SHORT SUPPLY.

-- OUR PROPOSAL FOR A 30 MILLION TON INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF NATIONAL RESERVES, AS PART OF A NEW WHEAT TRADE CONVENTION, IS A SEPARATE QUESTION ALTHOUGH THE EMERGENCY WHEAT RESERVE LIKELY WOULD BE CLOSELY RELATED TO THE U.S.  
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COMMITMENT.

-- WE HAVE PROPOSED IN GENEVA THAT THERE BE A MINIMUM 10 MILLION TON CEREAL TARGET FOR THE FOOD AID CONVENTION TO WHICH THE U.S. WOULD PLEDGE A MINIMUM OF 4.47 MILLION TONS AS ITS SHARE. (THE EMERGENCY WHEAT RESERVE WOULD HELP GUARANTEE OUR ABILITY TO MEET THAT COMMITMENT.)

-- WE ALSO HAVE PROPOSED IN GENEVA AN ADDITIONAL COMMITMENT BY DONORS TO PROVIDE UP TO 20 PERCENT ABOVE THEIR REGULAR FAC PLEDGE DURING TIMES OF EMERGENCY SHORT SUPPLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

-- FINALLY, WE HAVE PLEDGED AND COMMITTED FOR FY 1978 125,000 TONS TO THE IEFR. WHETHER WE REPLENISH THAT AMOUNT IN FY 1979 WILL DEPEND ON THE SIZE AND NATURE OF ANY RESERVE AGREEMENT AS WELL AS THE WFC DELIBERATIONS THIS SUMMER. WHETHER THE IEFR IS SET UP ON A PERMANENT BASIS OR NOT, WE FEEL IT IMPERATIVE TO BETTER RATIONALIZE THE USE OF WFP'S OWN EMERGENCY ALLOCATION WITH THAT OF THE IEFR. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSTRUCTIONS, POLICIES, FOODS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** EAGR, IT, US, FAO, WFP  
**To:** ROME  
**Type:** TE  
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